

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name: Ashland Brook

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 15/38

3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 10  
Coordinate F-204. Address: Route 108  
Sandy Spring, Md.

## 5. Classification Summary

Category building  
Ownership private  
Public Acquisition N/A  
Status occupied  
Accessible no  
Present use private residencePrevious Survey Recording MNCPPC  
Title and Date: Historic Sites Inventory  
1976Federal      State x County x Local     

6. Date: c. 1833

7. Original Owner: probably William Thomas

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. good b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This is a composite structure with many Victorian wings clustering around an early 19th century two story log house, and is important for some of the primitive interior construction details in the old part of the house.

The old log section is buried under additions on every side; the one to the north dating about 1860 and the others later. On the east facade, a small portion of the boxed cornice and old windows -- three-over-six on the first floor and six-over-six on the second floor -- are visible.

On the interior, the logs of the oldest section are exposed. The original door, facing east, is now at the back of the house. The beams are hand-hewn. In one corner is a boxed staircase.

Other buildings on the farm include a ruined bank barn with a stone foundation and brick walls and a stone dairy house (now covered with vines).

10. Significance: Ashland Brook is an example of a medium sized prosperous Montgomery County farm of the 19th century. It is associated with the Thomas family, one of the county's oldest and foremost Quaker families.

William Thomas accumulated more than 1100 acres of land between 1806 and 1831. The first part of this house was probably built about 1833 for his son, Edward, and his bride. Edward inherited the house and 364 acres in 1851. Throughout this time and subsequent years additions were made to the original house.

Thomas' son-in-law John Massey bought Ashland Brook and 148 3/8 acres in 1883. Massey was well known in the area as a gifted teacher; he established a small school on the property in the early 1880s and in later years became the first principal of the Sherwood School, which still serves the Sandy Spring area.

Ashland Brook was sold out of the Thomas family in 1904. The present family bought the property in 1925.

Michael Dwyer - Arch. Description

11. Researcher and date researched: Donald M. Leavitt July 1979

12. Compiler: Margaret Coleman 13. Date Compiled: Sept. 1979 14. Designation

Approval     

15. Acreage: 72.63 acres

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 15/38

MAGI:

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ashland

AND/OR COMMON

Ashland Brook

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Sandy Spring Road (Route 108)

CITY, TOWN

Sandy Spring

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles and Peggy Connor

Unlisted  
Telephone #: Number

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Sandy Spring Road (Route 108)

CITY, TOWN

Sandy Spring

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20860

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 582

Folio #: 85

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:15-38

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This is a composite structure with many Victorian wings clustering around an early 19th century two story log house, and is important for some of the primitive interior construction details in the old part of the house.

The old log section is buried under additions on every side; the one to the north dating about 1860 and the others later. On the east facade, a small portion of the boxed cornice and old windows -- three-over-six on the first floor and six-over-six on the second floor -- are visible.

On the interior, the logs of the oldest section are exposed. The original door, facing east, is now at the back of the house. The beams are hand-hewn. In one corner is a boxed staircase.

Other buildings on the farm include a ruined bank barn with a stone foundation and brick walls and a stone dairy house (now covered with vines).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

Local History

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1833

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ashland Brook is an example of a medium sized prosperous Montgomery County farm of the 19th century. It is associated with the Thomas family, one of the county's oldest and foremost Quaker families.

Ashland Brook is situated on a parcel of land known as "Addition to Charley Forest". The land was originally granted to Major John Bradford in 1720 and shortly after that time it was acquired by Richard Snowden the iron master of the Anne Arundel County. Snowden owned much of the land in this section of the county.<sup>1</sup> Snowden's daughter, Elizabeth, married into the Thomas family and the parcel of land Ashland Brook was built upon remained with the Thomases until 1904.

In 1806, William Thomas inherited this land from his father Richard,<sup>2</sup> by 1831 accumulating more than 1,100 acres. Tradition has it that the first part of Ashland Brooke was constructed by 1833 when William's son Edward (1811-1882) settled at the house with his new wife.<sup>3</sup>

Upon his death in 1851, William left his property to his children in six lots, lot #3 with Ashland Brook and 364 acres passing to son Edward.<sup>4</sup> Throughout this time and subsequent years additions were made to the original house.

Edward's son-in-law, John Massey, bought Ashland Brook and 148 3/8 acres in 1883 from Edward's widow for \$5,193.12<sup>5</sup>, and then five years later conveyed it to his wife Emilie Thomas Massey.<sup>6</sup> John Massey was well known in the area as a gifted teacher; he established a small school on the property in the early 1880's and in later years became the first principal of the Sherwood School, which still serves the Sandy Spring area.<sup>7</sup>

In 1904, the property left the Thomas family when Emilie Massey sold it to William Purvis.<sup>8</sup> In 1925 the property was sold off to the present family. James Hagerman, Jr., was a Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue and his daughter Peggy still lives at Ashland Brook.

## FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Thomas J. Scharf, History of Western Maryland, vol. 1, (Philadelphia : Louis H. Everts, 1882), pp.649-50.
- 2 Montgomery County Will Records, VMB 2/100 (12/15/1806).
- 3 Roger Brooke Farquhar, Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD., (Washington, D.C.: Judd and Detweiler Inc., 1962) p. 95
- 4 Will Records, HH 3/241 (2/20/1851).
- 5 Land Records, EBP 28/241 (2/19/1883).
- 6 Ibid., JA 8/481 (4/5/1888).
- 7 Farquhar, op. cit., p. 96.
- 8 Land Records, 180-294 (7/22/1904).
- 9 Ibid. 368/317 (2/25/1925).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Scharf, Thomas J., History of Western Maryland, Vol I, Philadelphia: Lewis H. Everts, 1882.  
 Farquhar, Roger Brooke, Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Md. Washington, D.C.: Judd and Detweiler.  
 Maps: Martinet and Bond 1865, Hopkins 1878.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 72.63 acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Located on the SE side of Rt. 108, 1.1. miles from Rt. 650.

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Donald M. Leavitt

Michael Dwyer

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1979

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

10.1.14.54.07

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Ashland Brook				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Ashland Brook				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Spring (Ashton)				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<b>PRESENT USE</b> (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____		
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Charles E. Conner				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Spring			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	

M:15-38

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Part of the present house allegedly is early nineteenth century. The oldest part is buried under additions on every side; the one to the north dating about 1860 and the others later. On the east facade, a small portion of the boxed cornice and old windows-- 3/6 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor--are visible.

On the interior, the logs of the oldest section are exposed. The original door, facing east, is now at the back of the house. The beams are hand-hewn. In one corner is a boxed staircase.

Other buildings on the farm include a ruined bank barn with a stone foundation and brick walls and a stone dairy house (now covered with vines).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 17th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATES (If Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Philosophy

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Science

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Sculpture

☐ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Social/Humanitarian

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Theater

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

☐ Transportation

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Farquhar, parts of the house date from about 1800. The land was part of "Addition to Charley Forest," granted to John Bradford in 1720 and later acquired by Richard Snowden III. Deborah Snowden, his daughter, married James Brooke and in 1728 built the original Charley Forest house. Part of Charley Forest also descended to the Thomas family through the marriage of William Thomas to Elizabeth Snowden; their son, Edward Thomas was the first to establish his family at Ashland Brooke in 1833. The house was supposedly built earlier by his father.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington, D.C.: Judd & Detweiler, Inc., 1962, pp. 95-7.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 3/16/73
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

the Montgomery County Historical Society. During World War II, Captain and Mrs. Parkins had five sons and a daughter in the service. Captain Parkins died July 20th, 1954.

It was a quiet Sunday afternoon, October 20, 1861. The 20th Massachusetts Infantry was camped in a corn field near Edwards Ferry, nearly within sight of Annington. At night the Confederate pickets could be seen moving slowly among the trees across the river. A Rebel yelled, "When are yon fellas going to Richmond?" A Yankee voice called back across the river, "The day before you rascals go to Washington." Inactive there for nearly two months, a certain private in that regiment named Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., was becoming impatient with inactivity. Late on that same afternoon, a bugle sounded shrill and clear in the twilight. "It was more than a call to arms. It was a call to battle," one of the bitterest of the war, at Balls Bluff. The Union troops spent half the night getting across the river in a few old scows.<sup>1</sup>

That same night at Annington a certain Union officer, Col. Edward D. Baker, who had been a U. S. Senator from Oregon, was being dined and wined by the hospitable Dr. White. "Tomorrow night I will dine either in Leesburg or in Hell" was his boast to Dr. White. In that battle young Holmes, the recruit, was wounded in his baptism of fire at the beginning of an illustrious career, and Col. Baker was killed. Col. Baker's body was brought back to Poolesville before be-

ing sent to Oregon for burial. Funeral services for Colonel Baker were held in the White House, at request of President Lincoln, who was greatly distressed at the death of his good friend, the Colonel.

The brick work of the house is laid up in Flemish bond in the front walls only. There are six rooms on the first floor, with 4 fireplaces, and approximately the same layout on the second floor. There is a basement under the whole house. Most of the original floors, still in good condition, are of the now very rare North Carolina long leaf pine; and the panelling under the windows and in the old doors is well done.

A very attractive feature is the presence of four wooden mantels, with delicate round fluted columns, in four of the first floor rooms.

Annington was sold in summer of 1961 to Drew Pearson, noted columnist, by the widow of Capt. W. S. Parkins. Mrs. Parkins has moved into a modern home, in Gayfields, on the Norwood Pike.

Drew reported a day or so after his return from "behind the IRON CURTAIN," that he was trying to develop the property slowly, in order to make the place pay for itself. He had in 20 acres of sweet corn, and about 20 heifers and 36 sheep grazing over the pasture land.

He is remodelling the brick slave quarters for a tenant farmer, has repaired the chimneys in the main house and is doing some plastering and papering.

<sup>1</sup> Yankee from Olympus, by Catharine Drinker Bowen.

## Ashland Brook

ONE mile east of Ashton on state Route Old 29 leading to Ellicott City, a pair of stone gate posts on the right side of the road mark the entrance to the rambling frame house shown on page 98. The name appears on one of the posts, and the top of the house may be faintly seen on the sloping land slightly lower than the highway. Just to the rear of the house is a strong, spring-fed brook, which enters the Patuxent River one mile to the east. Ashland Brook is twenty-one miles north of the Zero milestone.

Part of this handsome house is quite primi-

tive in some of its details. Tradition places the construction of it in about 1800, or before. The land is on parts of "Addition to Charley Forest," a grant to Major John Bradford of 10,230 acres, in September, 1720. Richard Snowden III acquired large tracts of land in the Ashton-Sandy Spring area beginning in 1715, and this no doubt was one of his purchases. His daughter Deborah married James Brooke and built the original Charley Forest house about 1728. Through this line of descent this plantation came into the Thomas family, possibly soon after 1728, when another daughter, of pioneer

Richard Snowden, Elizabeth married William Thomas, and the land remained in the hands of members of that family until 1904, a period of nearly two centuries.

William Thomas was saved from death when he was about one year old. He was born December, 1771. The Cherry Grove house, the home of his father Richard Thomas ("Marse Dicky"), burned to the ground in 1772. Baby William was rescued from the spreading flames and is reported to have slept serenely during the conflagration on an antique settle or settee on the lawn at Cherry Grove. William, in due time, married Martha Patrick, and they had a son named Edward.

Edward Thomas was born at Cherry Grove in 1811, and in 1833 married a Lydia Gilpin, born in 1812. She was one of the last of a large family of Wilmington, Delaware. The young couple went to housekeeping at Ashland Farm, which Edward no doubt inherited from his father. They raised eight children. Edward Thomas spent his life as a successful farmer, but he was far more than that in the affection and respect which he inspired among his associates in the community. Among the tributes paid him—we quote, from the Annals of Sandy Spring, Vol. I.—"His greeting was always bright and pleasant; his words glowing with innocent mirth or sparkling with harmless wit, when can we forget him? Never! Cheerful, patient, enduring man. Strong in all that was good and true." He died at the age of seventy-two in September, 1882.

Lydia Thomas spent nearly fifty years of her very energetic life at Ashland where she remained after the death of her husband. She died on January 5, 1899. Lydia had a bright intellect, was a great reader, well up on current events, and was highly endeared to her family and associates. As a young girl she remembered seeing General LaFayette ride through the streets of Wilmington in an open barouche which she later acquired and brought to Ashland where it was used as a family carriage, was driven around the Sandy Spring community, and at the last was a play house for her children.

Among the children of Edward and Lydia Thomas who remained in the neighborhood of their birth and made genuine contributions to its life and interests were three daughters: Louisa Thomas, who married Roger Brooke and

went to Glenwood to live; Mary P. Thomas, wife of Edward Jackson, a photographer, with whom she went to the far West; and Emily Thomas, who married John Llewellyn Massey, who was highly regarded as a capable school teacher. He established a small school on part of the family property near Ashton, between 1880 and 1885, and was the original principal in the establishment of the Sherwood School, now the consolidated County high school between Sandy Spring and Ashton.



NO. 5 D-10 WILLIAM THOMAS  
CA. 1800 LOGS

According to the land records, J. Llewellyn Massey acquired the Ashland farm of 148 acres of land in February, 1883, for the sum of \$5,193.12 from Charles G. Porter and his wife, Jane Porter, who was a Thomas. This same land, part of an addition to "Charley Forest," contained 148 acres which had been conveyed to J. L. Massey, and was conveyed in 1904 by his wife, Emily T. Massey, to William L. Purvis. Before this, however, Alban Gilpin Thomas had acquired from the old estate sixty and one-quarter acres of land at the time of his marriage in September, 1871, to Susanna Haydock Leggett of Long Island, New York. They established a home at Tanglewood, nearer to the village of Ashton.

Elgie Purvis, the son of William L. Purvis (who acquired the Ashland farm in 1904 from Emily T. Massey), was appointed by the court to sell the place as trustee for his father who was declared incompetent. On February 2, 1925, Elgie Purvis conveyed 148 acres of the Ashland farm to James Hagerman, Jr., a prominent attorney of Washington. The name of the farm was then changed to Ashland Brook. James Hagerman, Jr., who was born in Iowa in

1874, was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue by President Wilson in 1917, a position he held until his retirement in 1921. He entered actively into the practice of law with Clarence B. Hurrey, who followed Mr. Hagerman to Montgomery County by purchasing a farm on the north side of the highway across from Ashland Brook. Hagerman had married Mary Buckley in 1898, and they had three daughters, one of whom is the present owner of the farm which contains 165 acres.

She is Peggy Hagerman, the oldest daughter, who in 1928 married Charles E. Conner of Washington. They came to Ashland to live in 1931 after the death of both her parents in 1930. The Conners have two sons, who are James Hagerman Conner and Charles Conner, Jr. The latter received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1951. The other Hagerman daughters are the wives respectively of Frederic P. H. Siddons, a bank vice president in

Washington and Jack Boyd, of Montgomery County.

Charles E. Conner was an active realty broker in Washington and in Montgomery County until 1933 when he became an employee in the insurance department of the government of the District of Columbia. He was for several years Assistant Insurance Commissioner.

The long rambling house at Ashland Brook is much larger and more elaborate than the cottage in which Edward and Lydia Thomas went to housekeeping after their wedding in 1833. Details of the farm cottage on the place over a century ago are unknown. The part in which the Edward Thomases lived for nearly half-a-century was in the center of the house shown in the photograph above. That part has been maintained or restored to its primitive condition by the Hagermans and Conners. It had three rooms on the first floor and three on the second floor, and the kitchen was in the wing to the right. The large section to the left and the two-story porch are recent additions.

## Auburn

THE compact, charming small brick house shown here, located twenty miles north of Washington and back of the Quaker Meeting House in Sandy Spring, stands on a quiet knoll facing south. It is within a stone's throw of historic Harewood, and possesses three distinct features which the author is pleased to acknowledge.

Well-authenticated records reveal first, the year it was built; second, who built it and why; and third, where the bricks with which it was constructed came from. The third is often the part least known of the history of old houses.

According to these archives and the family histories of the owners, Auburn was built in 1818 which was the year after the brick Meeting House in Sandy Spring was built. There seems to be no doubt that it was built by William Thomas of Cherry Grove, as a home for his daughter, Eliza, who in 1825 married William Henry Stabler, born at Harewood in 1802. Auburn was located on the same large tract as Cherry Grove, "Snowden's Manor Enlarged,"

a grant to Richard Snowden III March 5, 1743, of 9,265 acres.

The bricks were undoubtedly made from the same clay pit and baked in the same kiln which produced the brick for the Meeting House. This pit was located on the north side of the Olney-Sandy Spring Road on land which at the time belonged to Basil Brooke of Charley Forest. It was in the edge of the village of Sandy Spring, and has been identified for generations as a shallow ice pond fed by a spring, and filled with wild flowers and cattails.

The children of William Henry Stabler, who was the last child of William and Deborah Stabler of Harewood, and his wife, Eliza Thomas Stabler, were Joseph, Henrietta, Ellen, Lucy, Martha, and William. The last-named died in 1867 at thirty-five years of age. Henrietta married Nicholas Snowden, of Prince George's County, in 1850. He entered the Confederate Army in 1862, attained the rank of major, and died in combat. (See Ingleside.)

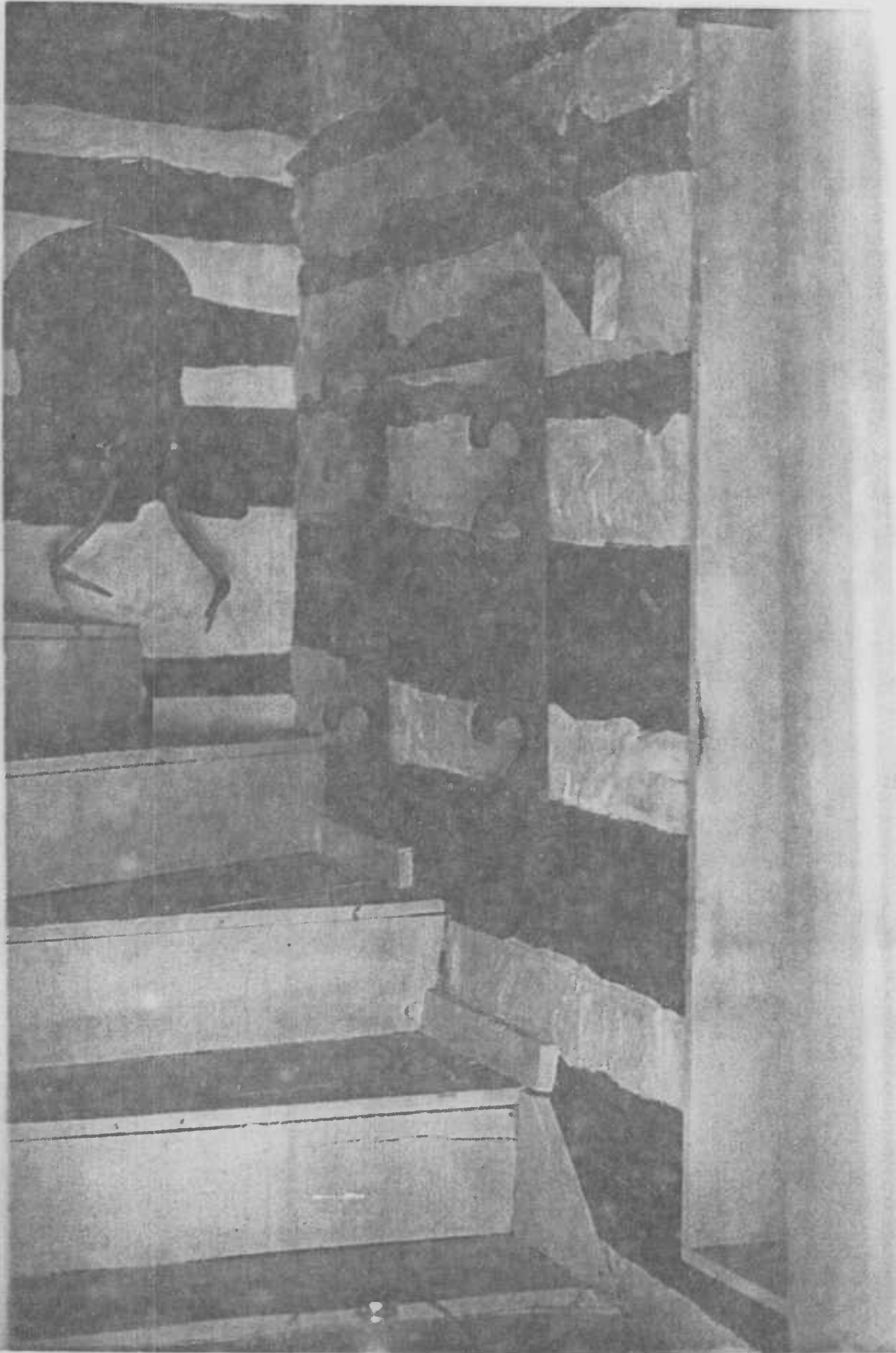
Martha married Thomas W. Reese, of Balti-



Ashland Brook  
Route 108, Ashton, Maryland  
Facade: *West*  
Photo Taken: 3/16/73 - Michael Dwyer

M: 15-38

Facade: Interior Log Walls  
Photo Taken: 3/16/73 - Michael Dwyer





NAME ASHLAND BROOK

#15-38

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



#15-38

NAME ASHLAND BROOK - REMAINS OF BRICK BARN

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



NAME ASHLAND BROOK

#15-38

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md

FACADE INTERIOR LOG WALLS

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER